Nuggets Of News

November, 2001

News, Photographs and Events of the Gold Hill Historical Society, Est. 1986
Meetings are held the third Wednesday each month at 6:30 PM at the Museum, 504 First Avenue, Gold Hill, Oregon
(except August when the annual potluck is held at noon on the Museum grounds on the third Sunday)
Mailing address: Post Office Box 26, Gold Hill, Oregon 97525-0026 Telephone: (541) 855-1182
Museum Hours: Memorial Day through Labor Day (summer) – Noon to 4:00 PM, Wednesday through Sunday, except holidays
Labor Day through Memorial Day (winter) – Noon to 4:00 PM, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, except holidays
Admission FREE, donations accepted

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

We were all shocked at the horrible events of September 11th, and even though the time which has passed since then has taken some of the edge off, it has been a wake-up call for all of us.

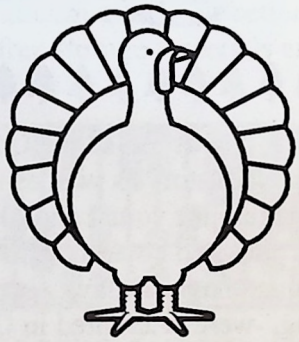
We had become complacent about our way of life and freedoms in this glorious country we call home. The terrorist attacks on this infamous date have made us all realize how tenuous is our hold on these things.

Our museum contains many artifacts, photos, newspapers, books and articles on earlier history making events, and this attack on our very way of life will also pass into the "history" category with the passage of time. Hopefully the lessons we have learned from this will stay with us, to make us ever vigilant and thankful. Gold Hill Historical Society exists to help preserve these historic and everyday events for future generations.

MEETING DATE CHANGE

Our meeting for this month would fall the evening before Thanksgiving if we follow our established formula. Obviously this would not improve attendance. It would only create a hardship for our members who:

- Are already traveling to celebrate the holiday with family, or
- Are busy preparing a holiday celebration in their own homes.



Therefore, at our last meeting on October 17th, we decided to move the meeting date for this month forward one week, to Wednesday, November 14, 2001. Please join us for this special meeting. We have some wonderful things planned!

LAUNCH TIME!

Before we are all caught up in the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations, help us launch the holiday season at our meeting this month, Wednesday, November 14th at 6:30 p.m. with an old fashioned ICE CREAM SOCIAL. We haven't seen many of you at our meetings recently and hope this will be a good way to get together, have you see your museum and enjoy some ice cream and conversation. We'll have free ice cream, toppings, whipped cream, chopped walnuts, and maraschino cherries, as well as coffee for those who want it. The business meeting will be an abbreviated one – we promise!! Admission is free, so please join us for a fun evening to help get us all ready to enjoy the upcoming holiday season. Bring your friends, even non-members, and show off your museum. (Children must be accompanied by an adult)

- Stories of early day events in the Gold Hill area are valuable history as well as making interesting reading for young and old. We have searched our files and could not find many that mentioned how holidays, especialy thanksgiving, were celebrated in Gold Hill in its early days.

- If you have a story or tale of the past, in or around Gold Hill, we would like to hear about it and will publish it in our newsletter, with your permission.

- The following accounting as told to me first hand as it occurred during the "growing up" days of Gold Hill and its residents. I feel it is worthy of retelling.

Signed: *Ted Wharton*

EAT CROW

There were two teenage boys, Jim and John, growing up in the Gold Hill area in the 1930s who spent a lot of time camping, hunting and fishing. On one such occasion in June, 1933, they decided to camp at the mouth of Sam's Creek on the Rogue River. They had the permission of Ernie Lyman who was glad to have the boys there, and since they both had their .22 rifles he urged them to spend the day shooting crows in his corn field. A number of crows were accounted for, plus several quail fell to the boys' marksmanship. The quail were cleaned and prepared for grilling over the campfire as a gourmet dinner with corn from Ernie's patch.

The smell of the campfire and cooking drifted across to the county road and was picked up by two transients (bums) dressed in typical attire; worn shoes, ragged, dirty pants and badly in need of a shave. Seeing them approaching the boys feared the loss of their meal but stood their ground. The two bums carried the traditional bag of possessions on the end of broom handles and obviously were hungry. "Watcha cookin lads?" asked the taller bum. "Shore smells good," blurted the shorter tramp. (The chips were down) – what to do? Suddenly Jim blurted out that they were cooking crows and pointed to several they had shot in the corn patch and hadn't disposed of yet. Some small talk then ensued with comments about "Who would eat crows?" but the birds on the fire smelled so good the tramps accepted five crows and hiked away up the river to make camp.

As they ate the quail and corn the boys became apprehensive – were crows edible? Were the tramps liable to get sick and if they did, would they come back to do harm to the boys? Quickly the decision was made – break camp. They gathered their gear, jumped on their bikes and headed back to town. Looking at each other as they hastily peddled, they agreed they would never eat a crow. Later, however, no word was ever heard about two dead transients along the river, so perhaps crows were more edible than some people had claimed.

In the haste to break camp the boys were careless and forgot to unload the .22s. John had an open hammer repeater strapped across the handlebars while Jim had his single shot tied to the frame. Entering town, and as they passed Suzie Coy's café, John's rifle came loose and in the ensuing juggling, the rifle fired. The bullet struck the hood of Jud Doty's old IHC truck and punctured the engine

block, causing a serious water leak. Again the decision was made – what to do? After riding a block or two the boys decided they'd better return and confront the truck's owner, who turned out to be Jud Doty, who was having dinner at Coy's Café. Approaching the old man, the boys blurted out the news and how it happened. Doty was somewhat dumfounded but appeared to be not too mad. Overhearing the confession, Seth Coy, Suzie's son who owned the service station and garage volunteered to weld the hole, at which point Jud Doty appeared to be satisfied. Needless to say, Seth Coy had two willing boys doing chores around the station for several days.

As told to Ted Wharton

© Gold Hill Historical Society

The moral of this story could read, "Never travel with a loaded gun," or "Save a few crows in case you have guests for dinner."

Fictitious names were used but the events as recounted did basically occur as related. I have also been advised crows are indeed edible, especially corn-fed, and in some states are listed as a game bird. However, I'm sure the boys kept their word to never eat a crow.

Signed: *Ted Wharton*

SICK CALL

We were all saddened to learn that our Coordinator, Gloria Wood, needed to go to the hospital for "repairs". She's doing well and is now at home recuperating. She'd love to hear from you:

Gloria Wood
11330 Blackwell Road
Central Point, Oregon 97502
(541) 855-1644

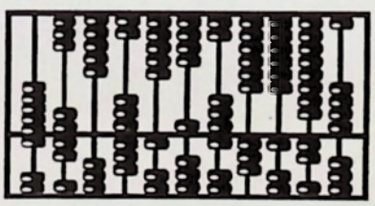
Her artistic talent for arranging the displays, her love of Gold Hill history and knowledge of that history are sorely missed. She'll know more about when she may return to work after December 3rd, but it can't be too soon to suit us. We miss you, Gloria!!!

ANNUAL POTLUCK

Our annual potluck on Sunday, August 19th was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The weather cooperated, and temperatures were moderate – just warm enough to make us appreciate and enjoy our shady lawn at the museum. Ted Wharton did his usual monumental job of barbecuing chicken, the corn on the cob was tender and juicy, and the potluck dishes brought by members were varied and grand. We all ended up over-full, but worked off some of the excess playing our version of "White Elephant Bingo". If you didn't make it this year, keep it in mind for 2002. It's always great fun.

TENDING TO BUSINESS

Since this will be our last newsletter before the first of the year, it's time to remind everyone that annual membership dues are due the first of every year. It does save us the expense of sending out notices if you can pay your dues before or just shortly after the first of the year. Family membership remains $6.00 per year. If you are not sure how far ahead your dues are paid, just look at your mailing label. The number bracketed after your name shows the last year for which your dues are paid. Thanks so much for your help in this matter. All we can save on paper and postage helps us operate your museum a little bit better – helping to purchase acid free storage materials and maintain our building.



DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE

We are raffling off a beautiful hand latch-hooked 32" X 54" rug, crafted and donated by Winona Nichols at our Christmas meeting, 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 19th. Tickets are $1.00 each or 6 for $5.00. Winner need not be present to win. All proceeds benefit the Gold Hill Historical Society.

THRU THE YEARS

We happened across these vintage photos, plus one recent one of member, Ted Wharton, and thought it might take you down "Memory Lane", too.

Ted, age 19, with his first car, a 1929 Chevrolet, at Voorhies Crossing....1938

Ted at Little Lost Lake in 1948 with his 1930 Model A Ford

Ted in museum yard at stamp mill in 2001

TIME TO GET STARTED

CHRISTMAS BARGAINS

MEN'S DEPARTMENT.

Men's Suits from $6.50 to $22.00
Men's Dress Shirts from 75c to $2.50
Complete new line of Collars, Ties, Hose and Suspenders. "Thoroughbred" $3.00 hats, the best in the world for the money. Statesman hats, $2.50. Globe hats, $2.00. A large assortment of the newest and latest styles of Men's, Youths' and Children's Caps.

Our Line of Men's clothes cannot be excelled. Compare these prices with any of our competitors.

Men's Working Shirts .50
" Overalls .60
" Cotton ribbed underwear, 65c values, now 50c per garment.

New and Stylish

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Our New Fall Line of Ladies' Dress Skirts just Received. Prices from $2.50 to $7.50
Underskirts, $1.25 to $9.00
Kimonas, $0.50 to $2.50
Waists, 75c to $5.00.

New Styles Collars, Cuffs Laces and Embroideries, Neck Ruchings of Full New Stock of Notions. Large Assortment of Ladies' Wrappers, $1.20 to $1.80

Ladies' Rain Coats, $10 to $15
Royal Worcester Corsets Dress Fabrics, seasonable, new and snappy.

Flannelette, Comforters and Blankets

Men and Women's Shoe Department. We take a special pride in carrying only the best SHOES in the market, as well as the latest and best fitting styles. Men's dress shoes, $2.00 to $5.00. New shoes arriving. Popular styles and prices.

Boy's Department

A Large Assortment of Boys Suits just arrived. $2 to $6. Boys Hats, 50c to $1.50

GROCERIES

Clean, wholesome and refreshing. Nothing but the best. Full weight and full value throughout. Something good to eat all the time.

SILK WAISTS.

Just arrived, latest styles, $4.85 to $5.50

SPECIAL SALE on Shirts, Kimonas and Petticoats this Week, 10 per cent off

Fancy Neck Ribbons, all descriptions at greatly reduced prices.

CARTER & DUFFIELD

Gold Hill's New Department Store

From the GOLD HILL NEWS, 1907

Here's a Christmas story of a different sort....

From the *Gold Hill News,* January 2, 1915

PRETTY GOLD HILL HOME DESTROYED BY FIRE; CAT SAVED

One of the prettiest homes in the Riverside colony where pretty homes are the rule and not the exception was totally destroyed by fire of unknown origin early Christmas night. Of a long list of furniture and valuable personal effects, including an expensive piano, only a shotgun and fishing rod were salvaged from the flames.

Early that evening the Woolverton family left their home to attend a Christmas party at the Alden residence, but a few scores distant. Within the half hour the fire was observed by Darley Slead. Flames

were then issuing from the roof, near the chimney. At the warning Al Woolverton was first to reach the doomed dwelling. As he opened the front door a wave of heated air and gas swept through the lower room and burst the windows. In an instant the entire lower floor was blazing so fiercely that it was impossible to enter.

The Woolverton home was built in the bungalow fashion. One novelty of construction was the absence of partitions between the various parts of the house, open archways serving in lieu of doors. This feature proved a disastrous one, as the flames had a full sweep and spread instantly. It is presumed that the fire started in the attic probably from a defective flue.

Members of the family were much concerned for the safety of "Nigger", the family cat, left in the house at their departure. When the large plate glass window fronting the road burst from the enormous pressure of heated air, the cat came back to the folks. In a shower of splintered glass a singed but otherwise undamaged "Nigger" volplaned to the yard, right side up and tail distended.

The loss of dwelling and contents is estimated at $4500, with $2500 in insurance. Mr. Woolverton will repair an older building on the ranch for their temporary home, and will rebuild the bungalow in the Spring.

....and also from 1915, *The Ashland Tidings*

PIONEER TELLS OF CHRISTMAS HERE IN 1865

Mrs. A. H. Russell Recounts Holiday Festivities in Ashland The Year Following The Civil War

"Well do I recall the Christmas of 1865, the next year after the Civil War," relates Mrs. A. H. Russell, eighty-three years old (in 1915). "I was twenty-seven years old and living with my husband right here (117 North Main Street, Ashland, Oregon) where I have resided ever since. We had a community Christmas tree in the town hall, which stood on the site of the present Odd Fellows building.

There were sixteen business and professional men in Ashland at that time. They were: Charley Klum, school clerk; Bob Hargadine, store keeper; Jim Thornton, woolen manufacturer; Jake Wagner, flour mill; Jim Russell, marble works; Mike Nickleson, blacksmith; Bill Kentner, wagon maker; Ebe Emery, tavern keeper; John McCall, merchant; A.V. Gillette, sawmill man and justice of the peace; Ed Depeal, lawyer; Abe helman, carpenter; Abe Giddings, stage driver; Oliver Applegate, teacher; Ivan Applegate, telegrapher; Albert Rockefeller, whose business I cannot recall....

A mass meeting was called to arrange for a tree and presents and a program. In order to avoid being given something to do, I stayed away but was appointed on the committee to solicit money and buy gifts for the children. I rebelled, saying it was not fair to place someone who was absent on the most responsible of committees.

A Methodist South minister, Rev. Johnson, who used to stay with us, persuaded me to consider the appointment favorably, so I finally consented to serve, provided Mrs. James Thornton would help. We collected $40 and obtained the names of all the children in town. A bag of candy and some small gift was provided for every child. The costliest presents we bought were a hat for an orphan boy and a silver thimble for a girl whose mother we feared would be displeased with a cheaper present. These two articles cost one dollar each.

The tree committee did not have to go so far to get a fine young fir as they do now, because the forest then came right down to our back yards. The tree was decorated with strings of popcorn, bits of colored paper and tallow candles. Candle lanterns lighted the room, this being before we had kerosene lamps.

People were great practical jokers in those days, and everybody poked good-natured fun at their neighbors. The women thought it would be a good joke to give the men neckties made of bright colored calico—red, blue or green—tied in a bow with ends a yard long, and fastened with a big brass button.

The men got an inkling of what we were doing and more than paid us back by giving us aprons made of the brightest colors and tied with strings three yards long. Oh, the calicoa wasted in those strings! The men themselves made the aprons, which were sewed with long, clumsy stitches.

Bill Kentner was Santa Claus and E.V. Gillette led the music with his flute which at that time was the only musical instrument in Ashland. John McCall sang bass, Charley Klum tenor and Mrs. Helman soprano.

Even in those days we appreciated our wonderful sword ferns, Oregon grape, mistletoe and other Christmas greenery and used them in decorating the room where we had our Christmas tree. In addition to the game which we have now, there were antelope and mountain sheep, which have since been exterminated.

Someone made me a present of a whole bolt of calicoa, which at that time was a very valuable gift. I was very curious to know who had brought that bolt for me and determined to find out. So I made a big sunbonnet and dress with very full skirts out of part of the cloth and wore them down town one day, walking in the middle of the street spreading my skirts out with both hands to make as much show as possible.

My sister, Mrs. Gillette, who lived where Holmes' store is now, saw me and threw a stick at me, calling out that I was making a fool of myself. But I thought I'd find out who bought that bolt of calicoa. Arriving at Hargadine's store, I accused the clerk of putting the calicoa on the tree for me and threatened to use part of it in making a vest for him so long it would reach the floor.

Ten yards of the cloth was given to the wife of a Methodist minister from Roseburg. Long afterward I learned that the one who gave me the calicoa was Rev. Johnson, to whom I had talked about the gift, and told how much fun I was having with it.

Our community tree was a great success. We all felt the Christmas spirit and spent the evening together in a happy, friendly, love-everybody fashion, hoping for better days to come. They are here."

WHAT A DIFFERENCE 30 YEARS CAN MAKE!!!!

From the Internet

1970: Long hair
2000: Longing for hair
1970: The perfect high
2000: The perfect high yield mutual fund
1970: KEG
2000: EKG
1970: Acid rock
2000: Acid reflux
1970: Moving to California because it's cool
2000: Moving to California because it's warm
1970: Growing pot
2000: Growing pot belly
1970: Watching John Glenn's historic space flight with your parents
2000: Watching John Glenn's historic space flight with your children
1970: Trying to look like Marlon Brando or Elizabeth Taylor
2000: Trying not to look like Marlon Brando or Elizabeth Taylor
1970: Seeds & stems
2000: Roughage
1970: Popping pills, smoking joints
2000: Popping joints
1970: Our President's struggle with Fidel
2000: Our President's struggle with fidelity
1970: Killer weed
2000: Weed killer
1970: Hoping for a BMW
2000: Hoping for a BM
1970: The grateful Dead
2000: Dr. Kevorkian
1970: Getting out to a new, hip joint
2000: Getting a new hip joint.
1970: Rolling Stones
2000: Kidney stones
1970: Screw the system
2000: Upgrade the system
1970: Peace sign
2000: Mercedes logo
1970: Taking acid
2000: Taking antacid
1970: Passing the drivers test
2000: Passing the vision test
1970: "Whatever"
2000: "Depends"

GREETINGS

Even though it seems early, like maybe we're rushing the season, this is the last newsletter before the holidays, so your Board wants to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and joyous holiday season and a prosperous and comfortable new year. Please be sure to visit your museum often and tell your friends and neighbors about it.

Expressly For You... Our Very Best Wishes

ELECTIONS

Election of officers will again take place at the January meeting. Please help with the governance of your historical society by attending meetings and casting your vote. We have been fortunate to have a dedicated core of volunteers, but all members need to share their ideas. Since this will be the end of my second term as president, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and help. It has been a busy, productive two years with much accomplished, but much left yet to do. Let's all work together to keep our society growing and preserving our wonderful history. Without our caring for these often fragile artifacts, they will be lost forever. It would be a shame if future generations lost these connections with their ancestors.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and the best new year ever!

Sincerely,
Lyn Parker
President

GOLD HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL/VOLUNTEER FORM

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

☐ *Family Membership $6.00 per year*
New or Renewal

☐ *Contribution*

☐ *Yes, I would like to volunteer*
- ☐ *A few hours*
- ☐ *A day now and then*
- ☐ *A regular day*
  - ☐ *Monthly*
  - ☐ *Weekly*

Would you have time to:
--help at special events/programs
--be a greeter at the museum
--help inventory artifacts
--enter data in our computer
--help plant the Memorial Garden
--other _____

Return form to:
Gold Hill Historical Society
504 First Avenue
Post Office Box 26
Gold Hill, Oregon 97525

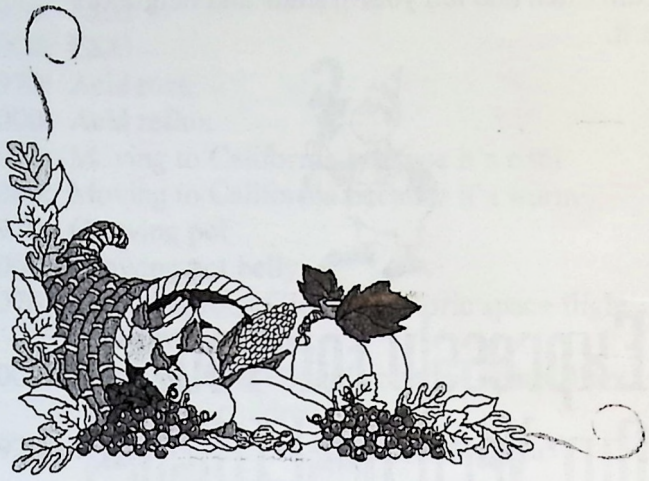
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lyn Parker, President
Marge Martin, Vice-President
Janet Sessions, Secretary
Clare Moore, Treasurer
Ted Wharton
Rex Parker

OUR PURPOSE & GOALS

The Gold Hill Historical Society's purpose and Goals are to collect, document and preserve the history of the Gold Hill area through:

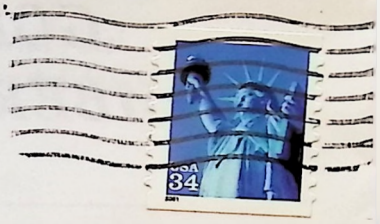
Oral Histories
Photographs
Artifacts
Books



MEETING DATES

November 12, 2001	6:30 p.m. Ice cream Social
December 19, 2001	6:30 p.m. hors d'oeuvre/ dessert potluck
January 16, 2002	6:30 p.m. Elections
February 20,2002	6:30 p.m.
March 20, 2002	6:30 p.m.
April 17, 2002	6:30 p.m.

Gold Hill Historical Society
504 First Avenue
Post Office Box 26
Gold Hill, Oregon 97525-0026



Eagle Point Historical Soc. & Museum
301 N. Royal Ave.
PO Box 201
Eagle Point, Oregon 97524

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